GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7632
ANSWERED ON:15.05.2000
EXPLORATION OF CRUDE OIL IN KERALA
SURESH KODIKUNNIL

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to take any steps for crude oil exploration in Kerala High; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

(a)&(b): Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd.(ONGC) has identified one prospect in the Petroleum Exploration Licence (PEL) held b it in the Kerala-Konkan offshore area. At present, 3D seismic survey is being carried out and based on its results further programme, including exploratory drilling, will be decided.

Additionally, four exploration blocks belonging to Kerala-Konkan offshore area were offered in the first round of bidding in 1999 under the New Exploration Licensing Policy.Two of these blocks have been awarded, one each to private joint venture and to ONGC, and the production sharing contracts have been signed for both on 12.4.2000.